

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A graft device, the graft device comprising:

(A) a first flap; and

(B) a second flap, the second flap being foldably attached to the first flap, wherein a tissue portion of a graft is held between the first and second flaps when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

2. The graft device of claim 1, further comprising at least one tab attached to the first flap and a hole in the second flap, wherein the tab extends through hole and holds the first and second flap in a folded position when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

3. A graft device, the graft device comprising a helix, the helix forming a central cavity, the central cavity being configured to receive a tissue portion of a graft, wherein the tissue portion of the graft is enclosed within the helix when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

4. A graft device according to claim 3, further comprising at least one projection, the projection being in contact with the tissue portion of the graft when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

5. A graft device, the graft device comprising flexible material, the flexible material having a first and second end, the flexible material being configured to be wrapped around a tissue portion of a graft, wherein the tissue portion of the graft is substantially enclosed within the flexible material when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

6. The graft device of claim 5, wherein the first end overlaps the second end, and further comprising at least one fastener adapted to attach the first end to the second end.

7. The graft device according to claim 5, further comprising at least one projection attached to the flexible material, wherein the projection is in contact with the tissue portion of the graft when the flexible material is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

8. The graft device of claim 5, further comprising at least one strap attached to the flexible material and at least one hole on the flexible material, the strap being adapted to extend through the hole to secure the flexible material on the tissue portion of the graft.

9. The graft device of claim 8, wherein the strap comprises at least one ridge, the ridge being adapted to secure the strap into the hole.

10. A method for protecting a graft during a surgical procedure to attach the graft to a bone, the method comprising:

(A) providing a graft;

5 (B) providing a graft device, the graft device comprising a tissue surface on the interior of the graft device, and a protective surface on the exterior of the graft device; and

(C) attaching the graft device to a tissue portion of the graft.

10 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising

(A) providing a guide mark; and

(B) moving an interference screw toward a bone tunnel in direction parallel to axis of the guide mark.

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12. A graft device, the graft device comprising:
- (A) an interior tissue surface, the tissue surface being configured to abut a tissue portion of a graft and bind the tissue portion of graft; and
 - (B) an exterior protective surface, the protective surface being configured to serve as barrier for the tissue portion of the graft thereby protecting the tissue portion of the graft from damage by surgical instruments during a surgical operation to attach the graft to a bone.
13. The graft device according to claim 12 further comprising an attachment structure, the attachment structure being configured to attach the graft device to the tissue portion of the graft.
14. The graft device according to claim 12, further comprising a guide mark affixed on the protective surface, the guide mark being configured to provide a visual reference to assist insertion of an interference screw in a bone tunnel.
15. The graft device of claim 13, wherein the attachment structure comprises a central portion and at least one finger attached to the central portion, the finger extending from the central portion so as to define a cavity between the finger and the central portion, wherein the tissue portion of the graft is held between the central portion and the finger when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.
16. The graft device of claim 13, wherein the attachment structure comprises an inner surface having a substantially C-shaped cross section defining a cavity, wherein the tissue portion

of the graft is held inside the cavity when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

- 5 17. The graft device of claim 12, further comprising a helix, wherein the tissue portion of the graft is enclosed within the helix when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.
- 10 18. The graft device of claim 17, wherein at least one end of the helix is substantially straight and further comprising at least one tooth perpendicularly attached on the helical end, the tooth being pointed and configured to grasp onto the tissue portion of the graft thereby securing the attachment of the helix to the tissue portion of the graft.
19. A graft device according to claim 12, further comprising a bioabsorbable material.
- 15 20. A graft device according to claim 13, wherein the attachment structure comprises at least one tab attached to the tissue surface, the tab being displaced at least partially perpendicular to the tissue surface.

21. A graft device, the graft device comprising a sleeve, the sleeve having a substantially C-shaped cross section defining a cavity, the cavity being configured to receive the tissue portion of a graft and hold the tissue portion of the graft when the graft device is attached to the tissue portion of the graft.

22. The graft device of claim 21, further comprising a central portion and at least one finger integrally attached to the central portion.

23. The graft device of claim 21, further comprising fingers, the fingers extending from the sleeve, the fingers being integrally attached to the sleeve, the fingers comprising a tab at an end.

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24. A method for reconstructing an anterior cruciate ligament comprising:

- (A) harvesting a graft having a bone block at both ends of the graft;
- (B) drilling a femoral tunnel;
- (C) drilling a tibial tunnel;
- 5 (D) providing a graft device comprising a tissue surface on the interior of the graft device, a protective surface on the exterior of the graft device, and an attachment structure;
- (E) attaching the graft device onto a tissue portion of the graft;
- (F) positioning one end of the graft into the femoral tunnel; and
- 10 (G) binding the bone block of the graft onto a tunnel wall using an interference screw.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising

- (A) providing a guide mark; and
- (B) introducing an interference screw toward the bone tunnel in direction parallel to
15 axis of the guide mark.

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